

ABSTRACT

The present invention describes a method for identification of lymph nodes and the presence or absence of lymph node metastases as an important prognostic factor in early stage cancers of all types. A carbon black suspension is administered in combination with a second compound to a region associated with a neoplastic tumor in a patient. The sentinel lymph node associated with the disease-associated region is identified by the accumulation of carbon particles. The region associated with the accumulation of carbon black particles is then subject to histopathology for the purpose of identification, diagnosing, staging or predicting the presence of neoplastic tissue. The neoplastic tumor is any neoplasm that metastasizes via the lymphatic channels.